

## There's never been a better time to be an early learning professional in Washington State!

Sign up for Early Achievers by August 1, 2016 and you will begin receiving:

- Enhanced Working Connections Child Care subsidy reimbursement rates
- Outstanding support services, including individualized technical assistance and coaching
- Scholarships! Further your education and earn your certificate or degree in Early Learning
- Professional tools to help your child care business thrive
- Professional development and continuing education opportunities

To get started, call 1-866-922-7629 or visit http://www.del.wa.gov/care/qris/.

Don't forget, providers who are not enrolled in Early Achievers will no longer be eligible to serve subsidized children after August 1, 2016.

What else is the Department of Early Learning doing to support your small business and early education?

- Increasing transparency and building common sense regulations our standards alignment process is bringing together the regulations governing ECEAP, child care licensing, and Early Achievers to create one set of sensible, safety-focused regulations that are easy for providers and parents to understand.
- Increasing stability the implementation of 12-month eligibility means that once a child is eligible to receive subsidy for child care, they don't need to reapply for a whole year. This gives you a better sense of the number of children you'll be serving over a longer, and more consistent, period of time.



With the passage of the Early Start Act on July 6, 2015, new and existing providers who qualify to accept children on child care subsidy are entitled to support and technical assistance to reach the following Early Achievers milestones:

Status	Existing Child Care	New Child Care
<b>Enrollment Date for Early</b>	Provider August 1, 2016	Provider Within 30 Days of
Achievers		Receiving Initial Subsidy Payment
Date to Complete Level 2 Activities	August 1, 2017	1 Year After Enrollment
Date to be Rated Level 3 or Higher	December 31, 2019	At Least 30 Months (2.5 Years) from Enrollment
Date to be Rated Level 3 or Higher (Beyond 2019)	June 30, 2020	Additional 6 Months for Rerating

## Don't wait to participate!

Check out the <u>Step-by-Step Guide</u> at www.del.wa.gov/care/qris or contact Child Care Aware of Washington for more information at 1-866-416-4321. You can visit them online, too at wa.childcareaware.org.